

ABSTRACT

5 Pulmonary surfactant is required in order to reduce surface tension in the lungs so that less effort is needed to reinflate the lungs after exhalation. A number of diseases and conditions exist that disrupt the normal flow of surfactant secretion, resulting in respiratory distress or failure. The present invention provides a method of treating a patient in respiratory distress syndrome wherein a surfactant deficiency has occurred, thereby restoring a normal respiratory function.